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February 17, 2000 LB 204, 419, 504, 626, 654, 654A, 701, 925 1077, 1268, 1283, 1295, 1322, 1362, 1419, 1436

cigarette tax there are, of course, other reasons for doing that, so that may be the course that we want to go. But whether we do that, if we don't do that, taking it out of the Excellence in Health Care Program is entirely appropriate from my...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...point of view. And, finally, the thing that is not appropriate in this situation is to take it out of General Funds. We've had this discussion a year ago about taking things out of General Funds without even considering all of this money that's going into the Health Care Funds, Excellence in Health Care Fund. Now we're having the discussion for another year when I thought, for example, that it would be resolved this year. Well, hopefully, it will be resolved next year, but if one program like this which is clearly designed to benefit from tobacco settlement monies slips in a little bit ahead of time, I don't think that's going to end the world. I think it would be entirely appropriate. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Beutler. (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, if I may read some items for the record.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Items for the record.

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Priority bill designation: Senator Landis has selected LB 925. Bills read on Final Reading have been presented to the Governor. (Re: LB 204, LB 419, LB 504, LB 626, LB 654E, LB 654AE, LB 701.) Transportation Committee reports LB 1077, LB 1268, LB 1283, LB 1295, LB 1322, LB 1362, and LB 1419 to General File, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal page 740.)

Mr. President, I have a priority motion. Senator Chambers would move to bracket LB 1436 until February 22nd.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your motion to bracket LB 1436.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature,